

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1063–S1098

Measures Introduced: Three bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 2135–2137, and S. Res. 381. **Pages S1088–89**

Measures Passed:

Authorizing Photography in the Senate Chamber: Senate agreed to S. Res. 381, authorizing the taking of a photograph in the Chamber of the United States Senate. **Page S1098**

Measures Considered:

Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of S. 1813, to reauthorize Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S1078–85**

Pending:

Reid Amendment No. 1730, of a perfecting nature. **Pages S1078–85**

Reid (for Blunt) Amendment No. 1520 (to Amendment No. 1730), to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to protect rights of conscience with regard to requirements for coverage of specific items and services. **Pages S1079–85**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that on Thursday, March 1, 2012, at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader, after consultation with the Republican Leader, Senate proceed to vote on or in relation to Blunt Amendment No. 1520 (listed above); provided further, that no other amendments be in order prior to the vote on or in relation to Blunt Amendment No. 1520, and that there be no motions in order other than a motion to table prior to the vote on or in relation to Blunt Amendment No. 1520. **Page S1079**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 10:30 a.m., on Wednesday, February 29, 2012. **Page S1098**

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a Presidential Policy Directive establishing procedures to implement section 1022 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services. (PM–42) **Page S1087**

Messages from the House: **Page S1087**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S1087**

Executive Communications: **Pages S1087–88**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S1089–90**

Additional Statements: **Pages S1086–87**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S1090–97**

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: **Page S1097**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Pages S1097–98**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S1098**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 5:37 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, February 29, 2012. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1098.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

CONSERVATION THROUGH THE FARM BILL

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee concluded a hearing to examine strengthening conservation through the 2012 farm bill, after receiving testimony from Bruce Nelson, Farm Service Agency Administrator, and Dave White, Chief, Natural Resources Conservation Service, both of the Department of Agriculture; Jeff Trandahl, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), Washington, D.C.; Becky Humphries, Ducks Unlimited's Great Lakes/Atlantic Regional Office, Ann Arbor, Michigan; Dean Stoskopf, Stoskopf Farms, Hoisington, Kansas; Carl R. Mattson, George Mattson Farms Inc., Chester, Montana; Darrel Mosel, Darrel Mosel

Farm, Gaylord, Minnesota; and Earl Garber, National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD), Basile, Louisiana.

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND FOREIGN OPERATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of State and Foreign Operations, after receiving testimony from Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine United States Pacific Command and United States Transportation Command in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from Admiral Robert F. Willard, USN, Commander, United States Pacific Command, and General William M. Fraser III, USAF, Commander, United States Transportation Command, both of the Department of Defense.

STATE OF THE HOUSING MARKET

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the state of the housing market, focusing on removing barriers to economic recovery, part II, after receiving testimony from Shaun Donovan, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development; Elizabeth A. Duke, Governor, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; and Edward J. DeMarco, Acting Director, Federal Housing Finance Agency.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE BUDGET

Committee on the Budget: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of Defense, after receiving testimony from Leon E. Panetta, Secretary, General Martin E. Dempsey, USA, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Robert F. Hale, Under Secretary (Comptroller), all of the Department of Defense.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUDGET

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of the Interior, after receiving testimony from Ken Salazar, Secretary, David J. Hayes, Deputy Secretary, and Pam Haze, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Budget, Finance, Performance, and Acquisition, all of the Department of the Interior.

WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Water and Wildlife concluded a hearing to examine local government perspectives on water infrastructure, after receiving testimony from Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, Baltimore, Maryland; Jerry N. Johnson, Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, Laurel, Maryland; and Kathy Horne, Alabama Rural Water Association, Montgomery, on behalf of the National Rural Water Association.

NATIONAL SECURITY AND FOREIGN POLICY PRIORITIES

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine national security and foreign policy priorities in the fiscal year 2013 International Affairs Budget, after receiving testimony from Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State.

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine a legislative presentation from the Disabled American Veterans (DAV), after receiving testimony from Donald L. Samuels, Disabled American Veterans (DAV), Cold Springs, Kentucky.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.